

CLIO AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT

OPERATING GUIDELINE

TITLE: WATER AND ICE RESCUE

THE PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF WATER AND ICE RESCUE ARE: LIFESAVING OPERATIONS

SAFETY OF DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL SHALL BE A PRIMARY CONCERN FOR ALL OPERATIONS.

EQUIPMENT

ALL CAFD personnel going into the water or onto the ice for rescue purposes **MUST** wear a Type I Personal Flotation Device as well as being tethered with a Rescue Rope.

APPARATUS:

Initial Response shall be; 1 Squad/Rescue, 1 Engine.

PERSONNEL:

Initial response should be: 2 Officers, 2 Drivers, and 8 Fire Fighters.
A minimum response shall be 1 Officer, 1 Driver, and 4 Fire Fighters.
If the minimum response is not available, a second alarm shall be called.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

All personnel who are actively involved, or who may become actively involved in the Water or Ice Rescue **MUST** wear a CAFD Type I Personal Flotation Device (Life Jacket). They must also be tethered with a CAFD Rescue Rope.

TRAINING:

All personnel involved with the rescue must be familiar with this SOP.

All personnel actively involved in the rescue must have trained with all pertinent equipment.

All personnel actively involved in the rescue must be competent swimmers.

INCIDENT COMMAND:

The Incident Command System shall be utilized to the extent warranted by the nature of the incident.

MEMBER ACCOUNTABILITY

All members will use the Department Accountability as directed.

WATER RESCUE:

Upon receipt of an alarm for a water rescue, request the following from Central Dispatch:

- A. The Genesee County Sheriffs Department Water Rescue Team.
- B. Genesee Twp. St #1 for their boat.
- C. An Ambulance and Paramedic

IF THERE IS A BOAT IN THE VICINITY:

Commandeer it and use as needed until the Sheriffs Dept. or Genesee Twp. arrives on the scene.

Only two (2) personnel will go in the boat to affect the rescue.

If a rescuer must enter the water to assist the victim, he must be secured to the boat with a tether rope.

The second rescuer must remain in the boat.

IF A BOAT IS NOT AVAILABLE:

Use of a Throw Rope shall be the first means of rescue if the victim is alert and in close enough proximity for this to be effective.

If the victim is too far from shore to reach with a Throw Line, attach the Air Connector Couplings to 2 1/2" hose (Up to 3 lengths), and fill the hose with air using the portable air cascade or SCBA bottles. As the hose fills with air, push the hose and a Rescue Rope out to the victim.

ONLY AS A LAST RESORT, or if the victim is unconscious, should a fire fighter go into the water to affect the rescue. If this is necessary, the fire fighter **MUST** wear a CAFD Type I Personal Flotation Device and **MUST** be tethered to the shore with a CAFD Rescue Rope.

ICE RESCUE

Upon receipt of an alarm for an ice rescue, request the following from Central Dispatch:

- A. The Genesee County Sheriffs Department Water Rescue Team.
- B. Genesee Twp. St #1 for their boat.
- C. An Ambulance and Paramedic

IF THERE IS A BOAT IN THE VICINITY:

Commandeer it and use as needed until the Sheriffs Dept. or Genesee Twp. arrives on the scene.

Only two (2) personnel will go in the boat to affect the rescue.

If a rescuer must enter the water to assist the victim, he must be secured to the boat with a tether rope.

The second rescuer must remain in the boat.

IF A BOAT IS NOT AVAILABLE:

Use of a Throw Rope shall be the first means of rescue if the victim is alert and in close enough proximity for this to be effective.

If the victim is too far from shore to reach with a Throw Line, attach the Air Connector Couplings to 2 1/2" hose (Up to 3 lengths), and fill the hose with air using the portable air cascade or SCBA bottles. As the hose fills with air, push the hose and a Rescue Rope out to the victim. Also, consider the use of a ladder to reach the victim.

ONLY AS A LAST RESORT, or if the victim is unconscious, should a fire fighter go into the water to affect the rescue. If this is necessary, the fire fighter **MUST** wear a CAFD Type I Personal Flotation Device and **MUST** be tethered to the shore with a CAFD Rescue Rope.

COLD WEATHER HAZARD

HYPOTHERMIA EFFECTS ON MOST ADULTS

WATER TEMPERATURE (DEGREES FAHRENHEIT)	EXHAUSTION OR UNCONCIOUSNESS	EXPECTED TIME OF SURVIVAL
32.5	Under 15 Minutes	Under 15 to 45 Minutes
32.5 to 40	5 to 30 Minutes	30 to 90 Minutes
40 to 50	30 to 60 Minutes	1 to 3 Hours
50 to 60	1 to 2 Hours	1 to 6 Hours
60 to 70	2 to 7 Hours	2 to 40 Hours